

SENATE RESOLUTION 9007

By Briggs

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. Martha Buchanan on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that we should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martha Buchanan is one such estimable person, who has served with distinction for seventeen years with the Knox County Health Department and will soon be taking her much-deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buchanan has dedicated her career to improving the health of underserved communities, beginning with her service more than twenty-five years ago as a family practitioner in rural Appalachia and throughout her tenure at the Knox County Health Department; and

WHEREAS, an esteemed medical professional, Dr. Buchanan has rendered sterling service as the Public Health Officer and Senior Director of the Knox County Health Department since 2009; and

WHEREAS, her dedication to the greater good for her community led the Knox County Health Department to become the first health department in the State to be accredited by the Public Health Accreditation Board and the first county health department to adopt electronic health records to improve patient care; and

WHEREAS, under her leadership, the Knox County Health Department has received a Healthy Kids Healthy Communities grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and a Category A Project Diabetes grant; the department also partnered with the University of Tennessee to develop the State's first academic health department; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buchanan first joined the Knox County Health Department in 2004 as the Assistant Public Health Officer and quickly won promotion to the post of Public Health Officer in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buchanan received her undergraduate degree in biology from Carson-Newman College, earned her medical degree at East Tennessee State University James H. Quillen College of Medicine, and completed her medical residency at the University of North Dakota Family Practice Residency Program in Minot, North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martha Buchanan is an active and important part of her community and profession, participating in numerous worthy organizations and programs, including the YWCA Knoxville and the Tennessee Valley, Metro Drug Coalition, Community Health Council, and the Naloxone Community Collaborative; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Buchanan is inspired by her family, faith, friends, and community to lead with the utmost integrity, and she exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Dr. Buchanan has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of her community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we extend to Dr. Martha Buchanan our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.